

Present: Guilford Mooring, Superintendent of Public Works; Pat Church, Committee Chair; Marianne Lorenzelli; Clare Bertrand; Lucy McMurrer; Select Board liaison Hwei-Ling Greeney; potential RRMC member Jeff Friedman; and League of Women Voters observers Jean Potash and Barbara Ford.

Updates:

A change was proposed to the minutes of the previous meeting to clarify that Janet Brown's resignation is official. This change should be made under the Member Recruitment section of the June 14 minutes.

Pat stated the Annual Committee Report is due to Roy Rosenblatt by Sept. 3. The Committee's name change and grant awards will be highlighted. Susan Waite's role as recycling coordinator will also be prominently discussed.

Bottle Battle:

Window decals are complete and we are now ready to publicize their arrival to local businesses. Susan will be attending a Promoting Downtown Amherst (PDA) meeting on Sept. 6 and will let business owners know. There will also be a blurb in the "PDA Buzz," a newsletter going to local businesses. Susan wants to tie data collection into the distribution of the decals. She'd like to find out who local businesses use as their recycler/waste haulers and how and what is recycled.

Posters regarding the Bottle Battle should be redistributed around town because they've come down since the last distribution.

Grant/Education Information:

The Springfield MRF grant is changing for FY08. Instead of program/initiative funding, they will be giving away free recycling bins (green and blue).

DEP Municipal Waste Reduction grant deadline is Sept. 13.

MassRecycle is having a tour at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 19, of office paper recovery. It will be in Wilmington, MA, and is \$5 per person. Susan will try to go and Hwei-Ling said she might also.

Sustainable Energy Fair:

The Sustainable Energy Fair (SEF) will be Sept. 15, on the Common. The RRMC will have a spot; Wildwood Elementary may also. We might show our composting video there. "I used to be a plastic bottle" shoelaces might be used as prizes for a game at the booth. Bottle Battle information will be available and the local business recycler decals will be promoted. Compost counter buckets will be given away. Leaflets, pencils, etc., will also be available to promote recycling. Perhaps the electric car (generally used for town waste water purposes) might be there to help draw more people. The recycling collection bins from last year's DEP grant will be used for everyone who rents the Common for fairs, etc., and they will be around for this. Committee members need to sign up to staff the RRMC table. Jeff will check to see if ARHS students might be interested. Susan will email potential SEF time slots to committee members before the next RRMC meeting.

Amherst School Update:

Bob Marin is unhappy with ARHS composting because so many non-recyclable items are finding their way into the recycling bins. We need to work with him because other than a commercial composter in Whately, he's the only one available to us. We need to figure out how to get trash separated from the compost. Jeff suggested funnel bins (which don't accept lunch trays) might help in segregating some compostable from non-compostable items. Jeff, Susan, & Meg Vickery will visit Bob and try to make this work.

Clare suggested revisiting Crocker Farm Elementary School's recycling as well.

School lunch contracts are renewed at the end of this school year. It's the time for the RRMC to speak up if we'd like to see compostable or reusable items take the place of plastic or throw-away items. In the short-term, we understand it's less financially profitable to use compostable or reusable items but it's better in so many other ways that we'd like to make the case for a change. Should we write up a proposal about this?

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The next meeting will be either Thursday Sept. 6 or Sept. 13, depending on Jeff's availability.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy McMurrer
Recycling and Refuse Management Committee member